

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant	: Philip J. Simpson
App. No	: 10/584,920
Filed	: December 28, 2006
For	: VALVE ASSEMBLY
Examiner	: Kami A. Bosworth
Art Unit	: 3767
Conf. No	: 1318

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Dear Sir:

Applicant makes the following comments in response to the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance in the Notice of Allowability mailed on May 3, 2010. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's statement to the extent that it may characterize the language or scope of the claims pending in this application or in any other patents referenced in the statement. Applicant notes that it is the language of the claims, not the Examiner's characterization of the language that determines the scope of the claims. Also, to the extent that there is any implication that the patentability of the claims rests on the recitation of a single feature or subset of features, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's statement because it is the recited combination of features that makes the claims patentable.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 5/13/10

By: Paul N. Conover

Paul N. Conover  
Registration No. 44,087  
Attorney of Record  
Customer No. 20,995  
(949) 760-0404